

Office of the Fire Chief Timothy M. Butler

645 Randolph Avenue, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

April 23, 2014

WEEKLY SAINT PAUL FIRE & EMS BLOTTER

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For Immediate Release

This feature we call "Fire & EMS Blotter" is a weekly update of the activities of the Saint Paul Fire Department. During the week of April 16 thru April 22, the Saint Paul Fire Department responded to 719 calls for service. Here is a **sampling** of some of the emergency and non-emergency activities from information provided by the fire department.

GUN SHOT WOUND - On April 16 at 5:12 p.m. on 7th Street East and White Bear Avenue North a 21 year old woman had been shot. Paramedics treated and transported her to a nearby hospital.

COOKING FIRE - On April 19 at 6:48 p.m. on the 800 block of Brown Avenue fire companies were dispatched to a single family dwelling with a small fire in the back yard on the deck. The occupants were cooking on the grill that was next to the house when fat from the meat ignited and flared up and burned the outside of the grill. The flames then scorched the siding and melted the electrical meter on the side of house. The fire was out upon the fire company's arrival. Damage is estimated at \$500.

BICYCLIST STRUCK - On April 19 at 7:41 a.m. on Snelling Avenue North and Summit Avenue an unidentified man was struck by a vehicle as he rode his bike. He was not wearing a helmet. Paramedics treated and transported him to a nearby hospital.

ARSON – On April 19 at 11:00 p.m. on the 2200 block of Glenridge Avenue a fully involved vehicle fire was extinguished by fire companies. The fire was intentionally set. Damage is estimated at \$6,000.

COOKING FIRE (Sprinkler Save) - On April 19 at 5:34 p.m. on the 30 block of Sycamore Street West the owner's son was cooking when a small fire on top of the stove activated the sprinkler system. The fire did not spread and there was no extension. A fire company turned the water off at the main while another fire company squeegeed to push water out the door. Paramedics evaluated a 20 year old woman who was having an asthma attack. She refused transport to a hospital.

- Careless cooking is the leading cause of building fires in Saint Paul.
- Fire sprinklers are 96% successful in controlling a fire with just one or two sprinklers going off.
- A combination of working smoke alarms and residential fire sprinklers provides a 90% chance of surviving a fire in your home or apartment.

• Every new house should be built with life-saving residential fire sprinklers!





On the left, kitchen fire without fire sprinklers. On the right, a kitchen fire put out by one fire sprinkler (above the clock).

UNATTENDED COOKING - On April 20 at 12:15 p.m. on the 100 block of Ruth Street North fire companies were called to an extinguished oven fire. On arrival, they found that the occupant had used an extinguisher on an electric range fire and that there had been some extension to cabinets, range hood, and the ceiling. They were heating cooking oil on the range top and stepped away for a few moments, when the oil boiled over with flames evident. Damage is estimated at \$5,000.

PROPANE TANK EXPLOSION - On April 20 at 12:16 p.m. on the 1400 block of University Avenue fire companies were dispatched to a report of a vehicle fire. Upon arrival, they found that a leaking stem valve on a 100 lb. propane tank that was in the rear of the minivan which apparently caused an explosion, with burns to the 53 year old male driver. He was able to self-extricate. The explosion also broke the window to another vehicle that was next to it. Total damage is estimated at \$2,000. Paramedics treated and transported him to a nearby hospital.



CARELESS COOKING - On April 20 at 9:11 p.m. on the 800 block of Cook Avenue East fire companies were called for an oven fire in the upper unit of a duplex. Upon arrival, they found and extinguished flames from a gas oven. An occupant had turned on the oven and forgot that there was a pot with oil in it in the oven. Damage is estimated at \$1,000.

GUN SHOT WOUND - On April 20 at 6:09 p.m. on the 900 block of 3rd Street East a 21 year old man had been shot. Paramedics treated and transported him to a nearby hospital.

DWELLING FIRE - On April 21 at 3:28 p.m. on the 600 block of Charles Avenue fire companies extinguished a fire in a vacant single family dwelling. An Arson reward sign was posted. Damage is estimated at \$84,000.